

Message Text

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AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECON, EFIN, PO

SUBJECT: GOP ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

1. IN CABINET MEETING AUGUST 24, GOP MINISTERS DISCUSSED AND APPROVED SEVERAL ECONOMIC MEASURES. AMONG THEM:

A. CIVIL CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY: MINISTER OF HOUSING PEREIRA PRESENTED FOR DISCUSSION PROGRAM (FOR SEPTEMBER-DECEMBER 1976) DESIGNED TO REVITALIZE AILING CIVIL CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY. AIMS OF PROJECTED PROGRAM INCLUDE:

- REDUCTION OF UNEMPLOYMENT IN CIVIL CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY;
- ADOPTION OF COLLECTIVE LABOR CONTRACT; BENEFITING WORKERS;
- INITIATION OF BROAD CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM WITH NECESSARY FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT TO PERMIT THE ECONOMIC RECOVERY OF CONSTRUCTION FIRMS;
- ADOPTION OF GOP CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND HOUSING. GOP ALSO PLANS TO PURCHASE FURNISHED UNCLASSIFIED

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HOUSING TO USE AS PUBLIC HOUSING PROJECTS OR TO RENT.

- INITIATION OF VAST INVESTMENT PROGRAM IN OTHER SECTORS OF THE ECONOMY WHICH WILL PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY.

IN ADDITION TO THESE MEASURES, MINISTRY WILL PUBLISH IN NEAR FUTURE LAW CONCERNING AN ANNUAL PROGRAM FOR THE ACQUISITION OF LAND FOR CONSTRUCTION.

B. MINISTERIAL REORGANIZATION: THE CABINET ALSO APPROVED A LAW REINTEGRATING THE EXTERNAL AND INTERNAL COMMERCE MINISTRIES INTO ONE MINISTRY.

2. EANES MEETING WITH CUF: PRESIDENT EANES MET AUGUST 24 WITH MEMBERS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION AND WORKERS COMMISSION OF NATIONALIZED COMPANHIA UNIAO FABRIL (CUF). DURING MEETING, EANES REAFFIRMED THE "IRREVERSIBILITY OF NATIONALIZATIONS" AND HIS DESIRE TO MAINTAIN CONTACT WITH WORKERS COMMISSIONS FROM OTHER PORTUGUESE INDUSTRIES.

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